



The Advise

and answer of my Lord & Prince
of Orenge, Countie Nassau &c.
and of y^e States of Holland and
Zeland, made by the Estates generall
on this side, upon the Articles received and
after concluded and accorded;
in form of a pertuall

Edict between

Lord Don Iohn Duke of Austrich, Kn
ght of y^e Order of the Golde Flece
of the part and in the name
of the Catholick King of
Spaine of the one pa
rtie/and the said generall Estates
of the other.

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Translated out of Dutch into
English,



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WH. p. 720, 891.

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My Lord the Prince
of Orēge and the states
of Holland and Zeland,
having seē y^e credible let-
ter? sēt frō my Lords the
generall states of the

lowe countries, by my Lord of V Viller-
sall, and Maister Paule Buys Advocate
of Holland, In company of my Lord the
Ambassadoꝝ from the Emperour, and
therunto being earnestly requested, to be
brought over vnto the aforesaid Lord
and Prince, and having understood ther
by that the aforesaid Lords and states de-
sired to haue their aduice vppō any Arti-
cle concluded on, by manner of an ever-
lasting Edict, in the name of the King,
and confirmation of the peace, being be-
tween the lands over and on this side,
and Dō Iohn of Eastenrick. The which
Articles hauing been wholly shewed vnto
them, hauing answered, and do answer
the same which hereafter foloweth.

That is to say. At the sight of the afo-
said Articles, they cannot leaue but com-
mend the earnest zeale and great desire
which y^e aforesaid Lord? & states, do shewe
to haue, in setting again our poore disre-
ued native Countrey, in his perfect quiet.

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nes, and peace which hath long time been
wished and desired. And they understoode
and firmly, that the aforesaid Lord and
States, haue had no other regard or mea-
ning in the same, then that once they
might deliuer these poor oppressed people
from so many miseries and calamities,
wherewith welnigh they already haue
been destroyed and overwhelmed, thro-
ugh the cruel and unsufferable tyranny
of the proud Spanish nation, and their
vnlawful gouernment, by them brought
in. And in y^e time to come, good order and
sure remedy as may be appointed, y^e here-
after wee fall not in the like danger,
with one firm and vniolable mainte-
nance of the olde priuiledges, lawes and
liberties of the lants, and that specially
hath been their purpose, with the afore-
said Articles to defend, in all and ouer all,
the last pacification made and concluded
in the citie of Gaunt, the 8. of Nouember
last past. Such as in all their letters, acts
and protestations they haue alwaies pro-
mised and assured, the same being surely
worthy of praise and commendations by
all our posteritie. But notwithstanding,
after that the aforesaid Lord and Prince
and States of Holland & zeland had per-
used

used the aforesaid Articles from point to point, according to the present oportunitie of the cause, and necessity of the case, y^e which forceth the to overlooke and way all the circumstances, like as in the time of our forefathers, the which in the like occasions, never have left to appeare and obtain of their Princes, new and commendable Privileges. So then they have thought that with the aforesaid Articles, the good zeal and desire of the aforesaid Lord and States before mentionned: is not in all things, wholly and perfectly accomplished. For first it seemeth that the aforesaid olde privileges of the land, the which they by all kinde of waies desired to have established: certain bywayes are found, which tend greatly to the abridging of the same, so that the power and libertie of gathering the generall states togither in them to whom of olde time and right it did appertain: covertly is taken away, as also that the States of the land are bound unto new bonds, and othes hertofore never used. Beside the which men may evidently se, the manifest inniolating of the said privileges, in the uniuersall withholding of the Countie of Buren, who as all the world knoweth,

And,

was

was taken and caried a way against all
lawe, realtō, and y^e privileges of the aforesaid
lands, the which ought moze to haue
been considered of, in that at the begin-
ning, the said privileges were so infringed,
and a matter which manifestly and
specially, ought to haue serued to the ere-
cting and establishing of the same, especi-
ally in seeing of one perticuler person the
which in no one cause could haue offen-
ded, whiche giueth s^t all hope that the
same hereafter shalbe kept, vnto the
whole people and Cities in generall.
Against y^e which there shall lack no mat-
ter for to accuse the of crimes & rebellion,
sidding therto, that in this dealing is
handed manifestly, against the aforesaid
pacificacie of Gaunt, and for that it is a-
gainst the same, it tendeth to y^e subuersion
of the whole, wherto the aforesaid Articles
seem to extend, the which moze plainly
appereeth, in that th'approbatiō and agree-
ing of the same, in no part is so plaine
and simple, as the reason and waight of
such a case wel requireth, but wholly de-
pending on certain denials, limited and
submitted to an vnnumerable of deceit-
ful delays, & in all being like the same
which in the time of madame of Parma
which

which hath caused this great and terrible
blow, against the which also was re-
covered by the Deputie of the aforesaid
Lord, Prince and States of Holland
and zeland protestations and acts, belong-
ing to the agreement welner in like
effect don by the consent of the States.

Moreover the aforesaid Lordes, Prince
and States of Holland and zeland, do
finde as they vnderstand, some points bea-
ring so cōuersome vnto their native coun-
trie, that they suppose the remembrance
of the same for euer, as also vnto their po-
steritie, should be imprinted an eueralst-
ing shame and stain vnto them, in that
that we not onely should haue rewarded
them their wages that overcharged, and
vntoworthely vsed vs: but also should tread
in composition and agreement with those
which wee by open proclamation, and
the authoritie of the King, and of the
States haue declared and perticularly by
an instruction befoze the States of the
holy Empire, haue caused to be accused
for arrant Willaynes & Rebels, the which
had made any couenants or conspiracies
with the Spaniards. And that which is
moze, wee wittingly haue consented
and suffered them to cary out of our na-

fine countrey all kinde of bag and baggage, our Jewels, money, goods, merchandise, and assellments, without any gain saying. Moreover the aforesaid Lords, Prince and States of Holland and zelad do think, y there is not sufficiētly set and neuer waied y respect, honour and thankfulness that we owe to the right noble and moste mightie Quene of England, as also unto my Lord the Duke, and brother to the King of France, the whiche haue shewed their redines in their whole good wil in helping vs with their goods, in pulling vs out from the oppressions and slavery, wherein we found our selues as the agreed. Wherefore reason would have required, that they should haue been therein comprehended with plain and honorable speeches. And lastly we do not finde in the aforesaid Articles, that the inhabitants of Holland & zeland, were prouided for with any assurance, although in the last handling of the peace at Breda, many necessary and resonable assurances were presented, & as should haue been also don the last time when they handled of the peace at Gaunt. Also be that their deputies, so wel with their mouthes as with their writings, did declare, that they in no manne i of waye,

vnderstood to handle with any other then
with the States them selues: they would
haue shewed, how they on their side,
walked in good trust, protesting if their
meaning had been to haue receiued Don
John, & if they must haue tractated with
him in that sort as they now doe: they
would haue required other assurances,
such as reason & the occasion of the cause
should haue required. And in these Arti-
cles is not onely one assurance, but also no
mention made of the particulars, by sub-
stituting them wholly in to their owne ac-
gain, touching their goods, States, and go-
uernments, the which they haue in di-
uers places ouer on this side, as also in
the countie of Bourgoingen, the which
nevertheles following the suit of the paci-
ficacie, the which at that same time was
not handled there to the generall States of
the lands ouer on this side, and ouer these
with expresse words might not be speci-
fied, according to all reason ought wel to
haue been provided for, and that is more
they can perceiue none assurance in the
aforesaid Articles. Also for the other pro-
uinces, and all the more common people o-
uer on this side, seeing that neither of the
raising of holdes or Castels (out of y^e which

as it is wel knowen unto everyone, much
evil is chaunced) as is not once touched
or expessed, neither also pronounced
any perticulers, nor Declarings of the ob-
livioulnes therein once mentioned, the
which unto the common people cannot
be otherwise but suspicion, the which o-
penly, and now in the last departure unto
this present hath bene threated, behu-
ring therfore truly god assurance for the
time to come when as the lād shalbe be-
weaponed, and Don Iohn established
in the authoritie, and government if it
were but the view of the ramples of the
times past. But it seemeth to the contrary
that the states shalbe toynd with such go-
uernours, as shalbe to their contentation
for this time, as if they ment heerafter to
take fro the al meāes wherby they might
holde them selues assured against the evil
intent of such as they appointe to be
their gouernours.

To make short, there were many other
such Articles, which after they thought
of the aforesaid Lord Prince and States
of Hollād and zeland ought wel to haue
been overseen and marked, it was ther-
fore their purpose, to put in writing all
the same, and to send it over to the afores-
said

said Lord and States, and onely to declare
vnto them that it was now the time, fol-
lowing the footsteps of our progenitors, to
request, so lowe and obtain the increasing
and multiplying of the priuileges, lawes
and liberties, left vnto vs by them. And
specially hauing therunto so good an occa-
sion and oportunitie, that we fall not a-
gain in to the like calamitie. But when
as they were busie in drawing the aforesaid,
pointes and articles and to put them
in wryting, to the end as befoze, there is
come to their hands the copie of the mis-
sive which the aforesaid Lord and States,
had wrytten vnto y^e aforesaid Don Iohn,
out of y^e which they haue vnderstood, y^e the
foresaid Lord and States, haue promised,
without any tarying for aunswere vpon
the said Articles, to conclude with
the said Don Iohn, and to require him to
subscribe the same Articles, with promise
to cause them to be published, and to re-
ceiue him in to the countrey wherof the a-
foresaid Lord, Prince and States of Hol-
lād and zelād haue wounded much, seeing
such a chaunge, perceiuing y^e the date of
the aforesaid missive welnigh was of y^e s^ae
time (so as they shortly after came vnto
their hands) that the aforesaid Lord of
VVil.

V Villervall, was come vnto them, so as
hoope the contrarieties which they found
in this dealing, they also thought that the
basines of a cause of so great a consequence
whereon the whole welfare, or destruction
of al these lowe countries doth hang: was
much abridged, though notwithstanding,
so as much as they helde and firmly be-
leue the same to be chaunced, to deliver
their native countries the sooner from the
Spaniards, and other strange oppressors,
so the they can do none other but with (as
they do from the bottome of their hearts,
and pray vnto the Lord God) that the e-
uent and end may be such as all those
which are true lovers of their native
countries do desire. And so much as apper-
taine vnto them, so as much as it were
now in vain to vse many reasons to y con-
trary, or to debate or gainsay a cause or
matter being down. They do promise
and assure the aforesaid Lords and States,
that they will maintain y peace of Gaunt
by all manner of wayes, hoping that the
meaning of the said Lord and States is
sure also, beseeching them, that they in all
mischaps will shewe them selues in their
deed to be such, as they on their side at all
times are ready to do, Nevertheless, that
men

men may plainly see with their eyes,
that they desire nought els. but to fur-
ther the departure of the Spaniards, and
other strangers, and confirm the peace
and quietnes, with their olde priuileges,
lawes and liberties of the lands, they are
contented to commend and subscribe vnto
the aforesaid Articles confirmably and
with condition, that the said Lords and
States, first and before all others it may
please them, firmly and vnbchangeably
to conclude, and to deliuer to them su-
fficient and ffirmable acts and obligato-
rie, subscribed by the Lords, States, and
gouernours, heads and colonels of the
prouinces, that if soeuer that the Spani-
ards, according to the order taken and ap-
pointed with Don Iohn, be not departed
out of the land: ouer on this side, in deed
and truth, and that in such time as to
them is appointed. For to beware once of
such lingring and delays, the which con-
tinually vnto this time, haue been so
hurtful vnto vs, the foresaid Lords & States
shall break and cut of all former communica-
tion with them, and pursue them with we-
pon in their former departure, without a
ny more hereafter to see and or deale with
them by way of communication, howsoe-
uer